

**Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA**

**§ 29.2407**

**§ 29.2394 Rule 3.**

In drawing an official sample from a hogshead or other package of tobacco, two or more breaks shall be made at such points and in such manner as the inspector or sampler may find necessary to determine the kinds of tobacco and the percentage of each kind contained in the lot. All breaks shall be made so that the tobacco contained in the center of the package is visible to the sampler. Tobacco shall be drawn from at least two breaks from which a representative sample shall be selected.

**§ 29.2395 Rule 4.**

All standard grades must be clean.

**§ 29.2396 Rule 5.**

The grade assigned to any lot of tobacco shall be a true representation of the tobacco at the time of inspection and certification. If, at any time, it is found that a lot of tobacco does not comply with the specifications of the grade previously assigned it shall not thereafter be represented as such grade.

**§ 29.2397 Rule 6.**

A lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two colors shall be placed in the color with which it best corresponds with respect to body or other associated elements of quality.

**§ 29.2398 Rule 7.**

Any lot of tobacco which meets the specifications of two grades shall be placed in the higher grade. Any lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two grades shall be placed in the lower grade.

**§ 29.2399 Rule 8.**

A lot of tobacco meets the specifications of a grade when it is not lower in any degree of any element of quality than the minimum specifications of such grade.

**§ 29.2400 Rule 9.**

In determining the grade of a lot of tobacco, the lot as a whole shall be considered. Minor irregularities which do not affect over 1 percent of the tobacco shall be overlooked.

**§ 29.2401 Rule 10.**

Any special factor symbol approved by the Director of the Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, may be used after a grademark to show a peculiar side or characteristic of the tobacco which tends to modify the grade.

**§ 29.2402 Rule 11.**

Interpretations, the use of specifications, and the meaning of terms shall be in accordance with determinations or clarifications made by the Chief of the Standards and Testing Branch and approved by the Director.

**§ 29.2403 Rule 12.**

The use of any grade may be restricted by the Director during any marketing season, when it is found that the grade is not needed or appears in insufficient volume to justify its use.

**§ 29.2404 Rule 13.**

Length shall be stated in connection with each grade of the A, B and C groups and may be stated in connection with the grades of other groups. The standard tobacco sizes shall be used.

[51 FR 40406, Nov. 7, 1986]

**§ 29.2405 Rule 14.**

The standard tobacco size 2 shall be used to designate X group tobacco of M or G color when such tobacco is 20 inches or over in length.

[51 FR 40406, Nov. 7, 1986]

**§ 29.2406 Rule 15.**

Uniformity shall be expressed in percentages. These percentages shall govern the portion of a lot which must meet each specification of the grade. The minor portion must be closely related but may be of a different group, quality, and color from the major portion. Specified percentages of uniformity shall not affect limitations established by other rules.

**§ 29.2407 Rule 16.**

Injury tolerance shall be expressed in percentages. The appraisal of injury shall be based upon the percentage of

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affected leaf surface or the degree of injury. In appraising injury, consideration shall be given to the normal characteristics of the group.

### § 29.2408 Rule 17.

Any lot of tobacco of the B, C, or X groups containing over 30 percent of mixed color or variegated leaves or over 30 percent of mixed color and variegated leaves combined shall be classified as “mixed” and designated by the color symbol “M.”

### § 29.2409 Rule 18.

Any lot of tobacco containing 20 percent or more of green leaves or any lot which is not crude but contains 20 percent or more of green and crude combined shall be designated by the color symbols “G”, “GL”, or “GD”.

[45 FR 47115, July 14, 1980]

### § 29.2410 Rule 19.

Crude leaves shall not be included in any grade of any color except green, light green, or dark green. Any lot containing 20 percent or more of crude leaves shall be designated nondescript.

[45 FR 47115, July 14, 1980]

### § 29.2411 Rule 20.

Tobacco damaged under 20 percent but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor “U” after the grademark. Tobacco damaged 20 percent or more shall be designated “No-G.”

### § 29.2412 Rule 21.

Sound tobacco that is wet or in doubtful-keeping order but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor “W” after the grademark. This special factor does not apply to tobacco designated “No-G.”

### § 29.2413 Rule 22.

Tobacco shall be designated No Grade, using the grademark “No-G,” when it is classified as dirty, nested, offtype, semicured, premature primings, damaged 20 percent or more, extremely wet or watered or when it

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needs to be reworked, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to type.

### § 29.2414 Rule 23.

Tobacco that is semifired but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor “SF” after the grademark. This factor does not apply to tobacco designated “No-G”.

[51 FR 40406, Nov. 7, 1986]

## GRADES

### § 29.2436 Wrappers (A Group).

This group consists of leaves usually grown at or above the center portion of the stalk. Cured leaves of the A group show a low percentage of injury affecting wrapper yield. Wrappers are high in oil, very elastic, and have a smooth leaf surface.

U.S. grades	Grade names and specifications
A1F .....	Choice Medium-brown Wrappers. Medium body, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.
A2F .....	Fine Medium-brown Wrappers. Medium body, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.
A1D .....	Choice Dark-brown Wrappers. Heavy, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.
A2D .....	Fine Dark-brown Wrappers. Heavy, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

### § 29.2437 Heavy Leaf (B Group).

This group consists of leaves usually grown at or above the center portion of the stalk. These leaves have a pointed tip, tend to fold, are heavier in body than those of the X or C groups, and show no ground injury. Choice- and fine-quality leaves of this group have a distinctive, smooth leaf surface.

U.S. grades	Grade names and specifications
B1F .....	Choice Medium-brown Heavy Leaf. Medium body, ripe, firm, oily, semi-elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.
B2F .....	Fine Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.